

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-16 and 18 are presently active, and Claim 17 is canceled without prejudice.

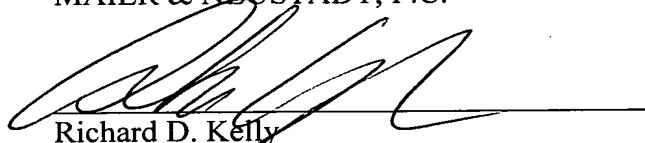
In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter, and Claims 1-16 and 18 were indicated as allowed.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication of allowance for Claims 1-16 and 18. In order to expedite prosecution of the present application, Claim 17 is canceled without prejudice.

In view of the amendments and discussions presented above, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early action favorable to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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